

## MESSAGE FROM THE GOVERNOR

The Speaker laid before the House and had read the following Message from the Governor:

Austin, Texas, July 5, 1949.

To the Members of the 51st Legislature:

In accordance with the procedure specified in Article IV, Section 14 of the Constitution of the State of Texas, I have today signed and filed with the Secretary of State House Bill No. 321, an Act making appropriations for the support, maintenance and improvement of the State Hospitals and Special Schools of the State of Texas. I have attached to this bill a statement reading as follows:

"A Statement by the Governor of Texas:

"In reference to House Bill No. 321, 51st Legislature.

"I have today approved House Bill No. 321, Acts of the 51st Legislature, with the exception of those items appropriated therein for the year ending August 31, 1951, and these I have vetoed.

"The total amount of the items vetoed is \$17,561,821.

"(Signed) BEAUFORD H. JESTER.  
Governor of Texas."

My reasons for taking this action are as follows:

1. House Bill No. 321 does not provide adequate appropriations for State Hospitals and Special Schools during the next biennium, as it makes no provision for an urgently necessary building program.

2. The General Revenue Fund, as estimated by the Comptroller, is over-spent by approximately the amount which I have cut out of House Bill No. 321.

3. By leaving all State functions provided for during the first year of the next biennium, the Legislature can adjourn and return at the call of the Governor, or upon approval of the annual session amendment, work out an adequate building program, re-vote the operational and maintenance appropriations for State Hospitals and Special Schools for the second year of the biennium, and provide the necessary revenues to balance the budget. The delay thus involved, which will not exceed six months, will enable the new State Board for State Hospitals and Special Schools to make its surveys and present an approved program for buildings and operation. During the same interval, it is hoped that a sound and fair tax measure will have been worked out.

As governor of Texas I have consistently opposed special sessions and new taxes. To assure adequate support of our eleemosynary program, I am prepared to change both policies. The 51st Legislature has done a magnificent job in many respects and will go down in history as one of our most progressive Legislatures. I pledge to you and to the people of Texas that the 51st Legislature will have an opportunity to round out its record by providing adequate eleemosynary facilities and a sound financing program.

Respectfully submitted,  
BEAUFORD H. JESTER,  
Governor of Texas